

Michels ↓



Memo to file

Subject: Sol Snyder and Psychiatric Research

Date: February 21, 1979 (Wednesday)

Baldessarini was ill and therefore cancelled the Grand Rounds he was to have given this morning. However, Frosch and Michels and I met nevertheless to take advantage of the schedule opportunity. We very quickly homed in on the likely interest that Sol Snyder would have in joining us and agreed that it was unlikely that we could find anyone else in the field who came even close to what we were looking for. This in spite of possible reservations that Snyder may be spreading himself out too thin; that he may be approaching a burnout; that he has not necessarily shown as much profundity in innovative approaches to the basic problems as he had skill in exploiting opportunities that presented themselves. I am not entirely sure about the last matter but we came back again and again to the consolation that there was really no one else even nearly competitive.

We will have to make some special arrangements to fit Snyder into the salary structure and one way of doing this is to enable him to hold an auxiliary clinical appointment at Cornell in addition to his academic appointment at the Rockefeller University. We discussed also the contingencies of two other faculty that he may bring with him: Coyle and Ruha. Coyle would be logically placable, perhaps even at tenure level, in the Cornell framework. Ruha probably does not come up to the tenure concern and would be more logically

placed in the Rockefeller scale.

Snyder's equipment requirements may be enormous, running anywhere from \$300,000. to \$800,000. Michels indicated that he had no capital funds that he could legitimately use off the physical site at Cornell but might equip one of the labs for one of Snyder's people on his side of the street. He did, however, mention Paley as a prospective donor that we might approach jointly for just such an enterprise. Paley may have particular interest in the physiology and pharmacology of pain. We agreed to start moving ahead to develop a material offer while at the same time making a last ditch survey of some other possibly junior candidates. We would try to get together as soon as possible to talk with Baldessarini about that.

I promise to get Kap up-to-date on these matters as soon as he returns and to get him started on trying to frame what the space possibilities might be.